



King County Green Schools Program

Program Goals

To help schools and school districts:

- (1) Improve or expand their conservation practices and reduce related costs;
- (2) Increase awareness of conservation strategies among administrators, staff, students and parents; and
- (3) Receive recognition as stewards of the environment, serving as models for their students and the community.

How the Program Works

Schools and School Districts Select Categories and Set Goals

Each school or school district selects **four** of eight categories (listed below) in which to make improvements.* (Waste Reduction & Recycling is a required category.)

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| ▪ Waste Reduction & Recycling (<i>required</i>) | ▪ Water Conservation |
| ▪ Environmental Purchasing | ▪ Energy Conservation |
| ▪ Litter Reduction | ▪ Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions |
| ▪ Hazardous Materials Management and Reduction | ▪ Addressing Environmental Issues in the Classroom |

Within each selected category, a school or school district will set a measurable goal(s) and decide on specific strategies for reaching the goal(s).

* Individual schools that wish to work on improvements in only **two** categories may participate as long as Waste Reduction & Recycling is one of the two categories. These schools will receive less assistance than schools that choose four or more categories.

Schools and School Districts Sign a Pledge Form

Participating schools and school districts sign a pledge form listing their selected categories and specific goals. (For an individual school, the form is signed by the principal, the Green Schools Program "lead" at the school -- which may be a teacher or custodian -- as well as any other involved teachers, custodians, or student body president. For participating school districts, the form is signed by the district superintendent, the Green Schools Program "lead" -- which may be the maintenance supervisor, resource conservation manager or other individual -- and other key participants.)

Schools and School Districts Receive Assistance

King County provides assistance to each school or school district to help identify and meet its goals. Assistance is tailored to the needs of each school or school district, and may include:

- an assessment of current conservation practices;
- recommendations on goals and the strategies that will meet those goals;
- hands-on help to implement the selected strategies;
- education and promotion about the program within each school and district;
- lists of resources for grant funding, additional assistance and awards;
- help with tracking success; and
- supplies/equipment such as recycling containers and recycling signs that may be needed to improve environmental practices.

Schools Receive Recognition

Every school and school district that follows through on its pledge and improves its conservation practices will be recognized on the program's web site, through media releases and other means of interest to the school or school district.

How Your School or School District Can Participate

Individual **schools** in King County (public and private) are invited to complete a school application form.

Interested **school districts** are invited to complete a school district application form. Prior to the beginning of each school year, King County will select one or more school districts from among the applications.

If you have questions about the program or would like an application form, please contact the King County staff listed below.

Contact Information

Staff: Dale Alekel, Program Manager, 206-296-8457, dale.alekel@metrokc.gov

Web site: <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/swd/schoolpr/greenschools/>